

In the Claims

Please amend claims 1-2 and 7 as follows and cancel claim 6.

1. (Currently amended) A clothing shield having a body side and an outward side comprising: a chest section and a pocket section, the pocket section having a bottom fold line and at least one opening member along the bottom fold line, the opening member causing the pocket section to automatically open independently of external influence or control, wherein the opening member is a resilient opening member selected from the group consisting of tape, elastically deformable material, or a spring.
2. (Currently amended) A clothing shield according to claim 1, wherein the pocket section opens when the clothing shield is removed from packaging or is unfolded used.
3. (Original) A clothing shield according to claim 1 further comprising a lap section.
4. (Original) A clothing shield according to claim 1, wherein the pocket section curves away from a wearer.
5. (Original) A clothing shield according to claim 1 further comprising one or more attachment devices for securing the clothing shield to a wearer.
6. (Canceled)
7. (Currently amended) A clothing shield according to claim 1 ~~6~~, wherein the resilient opening member comprises filaments.
8. (Withdrawn) A clothing shield having a body side and an outward side comprising: a chest section, a pocket section and a lap section, the pocket section having a live hinge-opening member along a bottom fold line of the pocket section.

9. (Withdrawn) A clothing shield according to claim 8, wherein the live hinge-opening member is formed of molded plastic.
10. (Original) A clothing shield according to claim 1, wherein the clothing shield is of sufficient size to protect a chest, lap and immediate surrounding environment of a wearer.
11. (Original) A clothing shield according to claim 1, wherein the pocket section is a substantially full-width pocket section.
12. (Original) A clothing shield according to claim 1, wherein the body side comprises a liquid impermeable material.
13. (Original) A clothing shield according to claim 1, wherein the outward side comprises an absorbent material.
14. (Canceled)
15. (Canceled)
16. (Previously Presented) A clothing shield according to claim 1, further comprising an attachment device.
17. (Original) A method for using the clothing shield of claim 1 comprising securing the clothing shield to a wearer.
18. (Original) A method according to claim 17 further comprising protecting clothing during eating, washing or oral care of the wearer.
19. (Previously Presented) A clothing shield according to claim 16, wherein the attachment device comprises an adhesive material.

20. (Previously Presented) A clothing shield according to claim 1, wherein the pocket section further comprises multiple layers.
21. (Withdrawn) A clothing shield according to claim 1, wherein the opening member is external to the pocket section.
22. (Previously Presented) A clothing shield according to claim 1, wherein the opening member is inside the pocket section.
23. (Withdrawn) A clothing shield according to claim 20, wherein the opening member is between any one of the multiple layers of the pocket section.